



Navarre CERT Newsletter

October, 2010 thru January, 2011

February 3, 2011

What's been happening and what's coming up?

The Second Annual Amazing Chase: A Smashing Success

Special points of interest:

- 2011 Amazing Chase
- Burglary

Inside this issue:

- Results of election
- Training at team meetings
- Independent study
- Community event support
- Basic CERT classes

An excellent job was done by the Amazing Chase committee of Bill Crouch, Ray Yantch, Lucy Crouch, and Debbi Lewis, with Lenore Nicholson as consultant.

The event started officially at 9:00am, Saturday, January 22, 2011, at the Holley-Navarre Seniors Association Center. The committee and support volunteers arrived much earlier and had things almost completely set up when the first team showed up, well ahead of 9:00. Soon, 22 teams had arrived, had odometer readings taken, received a briefing and most importantly, got the list of clues. At 10:00am, they were turned loose, clues envelope in hand. They had to figure out the businesses from the clues and work out a route to minimize time and mileage. Then they were off to the locations to collect verifications that the team members all went into the destination.

When all the destinations had been visited, teams checked in at the Navarre Elks Lodge.

As they drove in, they got an official time of arrival. Odometers were checked again, and arrival time and mileage logged to determine the winning teams.

In addition to the cash prizes of \$500 for fastest time, \$200 for lowest mileage, and \$100 for next lowest mileage, door prizes were given away. The Elks conducted a 50/50 raffle, and inexpensive food and drinks were available. Popu-

lar local entertainer Steve Hall performed for everyone's enjoyment.

The weather cooperated beautifully, with bright clear skies, although the temperatures were low.

Every team indicated that they very much enjoyed it. We'll do it again next year!

The event raised more than \$2,000 for the Navarre CERT treasury, helping to insure we can be as effective as possible when a disaster occurs.



They made it happen! Ray Yantch, Lenore Nicholson, Lucy & Bill Crouch

CERT Storage Unit and Trailer Burgled

On December 4, in preparation for our support of the Navarre Christmas Parade, Logistics Section Chief Bob Ferson went to get the team's trailer and equipment. He found that both the trailer and the storage unit had been broken

into, and a number of items stolen, including three generators. After the 911 call, Santa Rosa Sheriff's personnel, including the crime scene investigator, arrived to take a report.

Bob received a phone call

about two weeks later, to tell him that the generators had been recovered, and inviting him to check at the scene for other items. Although not all the stolen equipment was recovered, law enforcement's efforts brightened Navarre CERT's holiday season.

News from Navarre CERT, Inc

Election of Directors for 2011

Navarre CERT directors serve two-year terms, with half being elected each year. Elections were held on-line during October or on paper ballots cast at the team meeting.

The following individuals were elected:

- Bill Crouch
- Carol Henry
- Debbi Lewis
- Mike Sandler
- Ray Yantch

Now in the second year of their terms are TJ Doherty, Bob

Ferson, Sue Ferson, Lou Greene, and Don Nicholson. The entire group of 2010 and 2011 directors met in November and December to plan for the year and to elect officers and section chiefs. They are:

- TJ Doherty, Team Coordinator and Chairman of the Board
- Lou Greene, Operations Section Chief, Treasurer, and Vice-chairman
- Sue Ferson,

Administration/ Finance Section Chief, and Secretary

- Bill Crouch, Plans Section Chief
- Bob Ferson, Logistics Section Chief

Note: In late January, Ray Yantch found it necessary to relinquish his seat on the board. According to the bylaws, the board can (but are not required to) appoint a replacement to serve the rest of the term.

Training at Team Meetings

We always attempt to do some refresher or advanced training at our team meetings.

October: Electrical Safety was the topic.

January: TJ Doherty reviewed basic CERT functions.

There were no team meetings in November or December.

Team meeting training plans for 2011 will be posted to the calendar available through www.navarrecert.org.

Did you know? Section chiefs and other Navarre CERT staff members, even the instructors, take continuing training to improve their team management skills.

Independent Study

FEMA's Emergency Management Institute offers a number of on-line interactive Independent Study courses. Many are geared for FEMA employees, but there are several very interesting ones for citizens and CERT members. See a list, with links, on the www.navarrecert.org raining page.

Community Event Support

On October 2, the Holley Navarre Fire Dept. held their Fire Safety Festival and Chili Cook-off. CERT volunteers provided an information booth and roving patrols.

October 16 was the date of the Run for the Reef, a 5k run/walk to benefit the Marine Sanctuary. Team members assisted SRSO with crowd safety.

The NABOR Car Show was on that same day, and Navarre CERT provided help with parking access control.

Finally, on October 29 and 30, HNFD also held their Haunted House, and volunteers from CERT provided parking lot control and pedestrian safety.

On the Sunday before Thanksgiving, a group of volunteers provided parking lot control and pedestrian safety assistance for the Caring & Sharing distribution of food to needy families.

The Navarre Christmas Parade and Christmas in the Park took place December 4. CERT volunteers assisted SRSO with various tasks involving public safety.

Our last community assistance for 2010 was on the Sunday before Christmas, when we once again provided parking lot control and pedestrian safety for Caring & Sharing.

Upcoming Events

March 5, Mardi Gras Parade

April 29 and 30, Navarre Fun-Fest

May 7, Sunset Stampede

A list of definite and tentative events is available on www.navarrecert.org.

The community and CERT need you! Please volunteer for at least one or two events this year.

Basic CERT Classes

In conjunction with Santa Rosa County, Navarre CERT conducted two basic CERT classes in 2010.

The first was held in April, with an additional class in June. .

Classes scheduled for August and November were cancelled due to low enrollment.

We conduct these classes over two consecutive weekends. The next class will be:

Friday, March 18, 6:00 - 9:30pm
 Saturday, Mar. 19, 8:00am-5:00pm
 Sunday, Mar. 20, 1:00 - 5:00pm
 Friday, Mar. 25, 6:00 - 9:30pm
 Saturday, Mar 26, 8:00am-5:00pm
 Sunday, Mar. 27, 1:00 -5:00pm Final exercise and graduation

Team members who received their training prior to 2010 are encouraged to attend this class, either in part or in full. In addition to refreshing your knowledge and skills, your presence can be valuable to new students.

All members should make sure family members, friends, neighbors and co-workers are aware of this training. It's free and there's no obligation to join Navarre CERT. *Introduction to Community Emergency Response Teams* uses materials provided by the Citizen Corps, which is a program under the Dept. of Homeland Security. Classes are taught by CERT members who have completed special "Train the Trainers" classes, augmented by emergency response experts.

Topics covered are:

- Disaster Preparedness
- Fire Safety
- Disaster Medical Operations
- Light Search and Rescue
- CERT Organization
- Disaster Psychology
- Terrorism and CERT

Skills can get rusty from disuse. Plan now to participate in the next disaster drill, tentatively scheduled for June 18

Navarre CERT, Santa Rosa County, Florida

The Navarre Community Emergency Response Team is dedicated to preparedness for, response to, and recovery from disasters, especially hurricanes, in Navarre and Santa Rosa County. Our members are all volunteers with differing degrees of experience and training in emergency response, and include retired firefighters and paramedics as well as "desk jockeys", male and female, young and older. We're always looking for more.



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